

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. ROGERS. Mr. Speaker, February 8th marks the fourth anniversary of the historic Telecommunications Act of 1996. The purpose of the Act was to unleash competition in all telecommunications markets and thus achieve unprecedented investment and technological innovation. Businesses would enjoy substantial productivity gains and consumers would have access to new technologies that promised profound changes in the way we work, communicate and entertain. Schools, libraries and homes would have access to information that is revolutionizing the way we educate ourselves. Electronic commerce, distance learning, and telemedicine have all become realities. The progress we've seen in the four short years—in Kentucky and nationwide—has been remarkable and rapid. Consider the following:

The Explosion of the Internet. There were 50 million Internet users just two years ago and today there are more than 80 million Americans online and 200 million worldwide. Electronic commerce is projected to be a trillion-dollar activity in the next three to five years.

Ninety-nine percent of American households—in both urban and rural areas—can reach the Internet via a local telephone call. Substantial new network investment by Internet backbone providers has made this possible. In 1996, 14 such providers existed; by 1999, that number had more than tripled to 43. In four years, Internet backbone providers expanded their points of presence—where Internet Service Providers (ISP's) establish high-speed links to the backbone—from less than 70 to more than 1000.

The number of ISPs offering consumers Internet access has exploded—today there are more than 6,500 ISPs nationwide. Forty-six states have 100 or more ISPs, including my home state of Kentucky.

Independent rural telephone companies and cooperatives offer Internet connectivity—97 percent offer Internet dial-up at speeds of up to 56K, and 30 percent are offering broadband services (1999 NCTA survey).

The number of competitive carriers has increased dramatically. Today, over 600 long distance companies compete against one another in a dynamic market that has seen per-minute prices drop to 5 cents. In addition, the Act spurred the creation of more than 375 new entrepreneurial companies that are fighting to bring competition to local telephone markets.

These new local competitors, called "CLECs," have grown significantly since 1996. They now employ 70,000 people and have invested \$30 billion in new networks since passage of the Act. In four years, their market capitalization has increased from \$3.1 billion to about \$85 billion today.

In my home state of Kentucky, 25 CLECs are up and running.

In short Mr. Speaker, the Telecommunications Act is working. It has been a catalyst for almost unimaginable technological progress. Having said that, our work as a nation is not done—there are still some Americans who need access to better, faster and more affordable means of communication. However, we are heading in the right direction and the Telecommunications Act along with the millions of American men and women working in the industry are the driving force.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE LT. MARGARET O'MALLEY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Margaret O'Malley, who passed away recently after battling with liver cancer at the age of 44. Lt. O'Malley had been in charge of security at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport since 1993.

Lt. O'Malley received much accreditation for her hard work and innovative ideas. She was awarded several commendations from the Secret Service for her assistance in providing security when President Clinton landed at Cleveland Hopkins Airport aboard Air Force One. She accommodated numerous celebrities throughout her seven years of work at the airport, including Bette Midler and Melissa Etheridge, and also worked to ensure the safety of the Cleveland Indians when fans poured into the airport to greet the team in the wee hours of the morning after their pennant-clinching victory. According to Capt. Margaret A. Downing, who was Lt. O'Malley's domestic partner for the past 19 years. "Often, when celebrities arrived, she expedited their travel through the airport." Also, in order to aid her staff, the Lt. arranged for the donation of several bicycles so that officers could patrol the airport by bicycle. Although her primary concern was the safety of travelers in the airport, she also worked to enhance the experience of visitors to the city and to accommodate the local residents who came to the airport to greet friends and relatives.

The Cleveland native followed in the footsteps of her father Michael, who is also a Cleveland police lieutenant. The elder O'Malley has the most seniority of any officer in the 1,850-member department. The younger O'Malley grew up in Cleveland and Fairview Park. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Edgecliffe College, now part of Xavier University. She was accepted into the police academy in 1979, was promoted to sergeant in 1985, and promoted again to lieutenant in 1993.

Lt. O'Malley also excelled when she was not in uniform. She coordinated women's sporting events for police officers and friends, including

volleyball matches and softball games. Last summer, she organized a charitable golf outing that benefited the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Her zest for life invigorated all those around her.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Lt. O'Malley's hard work and dedication to her community. The great lengths she took to ensure safety to all and her commitment to the people of Cleveland will be greatly missed.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ELKS BPOE LODGE 481

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of an organization that I am proud to be a member of, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Lodge 481 in Belleville, Illinois.

The beginnings for the Elks organization is credited to Charles Algernon Sidney Vivian. Born in London, Vivian arrived in New York in 1867. Vivian, an actor, met with a group of other theatrical entertainers to create a loose organization called the Jolly Corks. When one of the members died in 1867, leaving both his wife and his children destitute, the Jolly Corks decided, that in addition to good fellowship, they needed a more enduring organization to serve those in need. On February 16, 1868, they established the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks and elected Vivian to head it. As word of it's social activities and benefit performances increased and spread to other cities, other Elks' "lodges" were formed.

The legacy of Charles Vivian continues to this day. In addition to aiding members in distress, the Elks raise money for children with disabilities, college scholarships, youth projects and recreational programs for patients in veterans hospitals.

In 1907, the Elks held the first flag day observance. This tradition, started by the Elks, was later declared a national holiday by President Harry S. Truman. During World War I, the Elks funded and equipped field hospitals in France. Their loans to 40,000 returning veterans for college, rehabilitation and education was the precursor to the original GI bill. The Elks were used during WWII to recruit construction workers for the military and they also contributed books to the Merchant Marines. During the Korean War, the Elks gave more than a half million pints of blood to help the wounded and in Vietnam, the Elks provided funds for the recreational needs of the military. When Desert Storm took place, the Elks undertook letter-writing campaigns to help keep up soldiers morale.

Today, there are more than 1.3 million members of the Elks in 2200 local lodges found in all 50 states. Many members of Congress have been Elks. Former Speakers, Tom

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Foley, Tip O'Neill, Carl Albert, John McCormick and Sam Rayburn all belonged to the Elks. Hale Boggs of Louisiana was also an Elk. Presidents Harding, FDR, Truman, Kennedy and Ford were all Elks lodge members.

Local Elks lodges provide recreational and support facilities for the entire family and are the focal point for many community service projects. Lodge 481 members in Belleville log in thousands of hours in volunteer service to charitable, educational and patriotic causes in our community. Chartered in 1899, Lodge 481 continues to be an asset to the community. This lodge sponsors baseball, softball, football and soccer leagues in the area. They organize blood drives, help local scouts and provide their facilities free of charge to local fund raising efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100 years of service of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks Lodge 481 and salute members of the lodge both past and present.

TRIBUTE TO CAL FARMER—EDUCATOR FOR YOUTH AND INDUSTRY

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, recently, one of my constituents, Dr. Cal Farmer, was honored by his many friends and colleagues for his lifelong dedication to vocational education and its vital role in equipping young people for success in the complex and increasingly technical industries of our community, state, and nation.

The specialized field of vocational education has grown rapidly over the past decade and for its many students in our community, Cal Farmer's energetic leadership has continuously pushed for higher standards and broader goals at every level.

Cal's efforts with the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) program, as an advisor and as a consultant, have brought thousands of high school and college students to a new level of understanding of the value of vocational education. At the same time, his work with the American Vocational Association (AVA) has expanded his vision to both California and national programs.

Industries large and small have come to realize that their interests and needs are best served by educated employees, and students are best served by opportunities to participate in workforce training while in school.

Even beyond formal educational pursuits, Cal has brought vigor and vision to many community services: Boy Scouts, American Cancer Society, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Long Beach Associates (DLBA), Navy League, Pubic Corporation of the Arts, Propeller Club, and many others. His busy and productive life remains an inspiration for countless others. I wish him well in his many continuing endeavors.

COLORADO NURSERY PERSON OF THE YEAR, DENNIS HILL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the Associated Landscape Contractors of Colorado's Nursery Person of the Year, Dennis Hill.

Dennis won the award from the Excellence In Landscape Design Competition. Dennis has worked for twenty years in the industry. He was first an independent landscape contractor and presently a retail nursery. Owner of the nursery Bookcliff Gardens, Dennis admits that a love of gardening is only part of the job. He also thrives on being involved with people. He says that he gardens for two reasons: for the shade and for the beauty and peace.

In addition to the individual award that Dennis received, his business also received the Merit Award in Landscape Construction in the Single Family Residential category.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Dennis Hill and Bookcliff Gardens. He has brought dedication and professionalism to his profession.

IN HONOR OF COMMANDER GREGORY BAEPLER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Commander Gregory Baeppler, a thirty year veteran of the Cleveland Police Department.

Gregory Baeppler was appointed to the Cleveland Police Department on October 17, 1969. Throughout his career Gregory Baeppler has excelled at civil service tests as well as in the field. Baeppler was promoted to Sergeant on November 6, 1976, to the rank of Lieutenant on July 26, 1982, and then the rank of Captain on July 18, 1985.

On April 14, 1986, Gregory Baeppler was appointed to the rank of Commander of Police and he has successfully held the rank of Commander longer than any other person in the history of the Cleveland Police Department. Commander Baeppler was in charge of the sixth district from his appointment until August 29, 1988, when he transferred and was assigned as Commander of the Second District. From August 29, 1988, until the retirement of Commander Baeppler, the Second District usually led the city in every measurement of importance.

Throughout his years on the force Commander Baeppler has shown leadership qualities that have caused him to be pursued by the private sector. He has been in charge of security for a vast array of sporting events and concerts.

Commander Baeppler's retirement brings a close to an exemplary thirty year career.

My fellow colleagues please join me in honoring Commander Baeppler, a true beacon in the Cleveland community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on February 29 and March 1, a family emergency prevented my return to Washington, D.C. and I missed rollcall votes Nos. 26, 27, 28. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on S. 613, The Indian Tribal Economic Development and Contract Encouragement Act; "yes" on H.R. 5, Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act; and "yes" on the Senate amendments to H.R. 1883, Iran Nonproliferation Act.

TARIFF CORRECTION BILL

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I introduced a miscellaneous tariff correction bill (H.R. 3715) that will be one tool to help keep the remaining cathode ray tube and computer display screen manufacturers in the United States.

Monochrome glass envelopes are used to make cathode ray tubes that provide the "light" behind the computer monitor. When the tariff on monochrome glass envelopes was first proposed, there were American manufacturers of this product. But over the last few years, the final American manufacturer of monochrome glass envelopes decided to get out of the business. Thus, the tariff duty designed to provide a modest level of protection for U.S. makers of monochrome glass envelopes no longer serves its purpose. In fact, the import duty is now hurting the international competitiveness of U.S. cathode ray tube and computer display screen manufacturers.

Other foreign competitors are able to purchase monochrome glass envelopes without this tariff. Thus, they are able to price their computer monitors in the U.S. more competitively than U.S. manufacturers of equivalent product. Mr. Speaker, there should not be a U.S.-government imposed incentive for Americans to buy foreign computer display screens! That's why I ask my colleagues to support the inclusion of H.R. 3715 into the comprehensive miscellaneous tariff correction bill to be taken up by the House later this year. We need to remove the import tariff on monochrome glass envelopes so that American manufacturers of cathode ray tubes and computer monitors can compete on a more equal footing with their foreign counterparts.

HONORING LAURENE KNUPP

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman who has meant so much to the community of Eagle, Colorado. Laurene Knupp has lived in Eagle for all but a few of her 82 years. She